

### III. REMARKS

Claims 1, 42, 43, 46, 21, 48, 49 and 52 respectively correspond to allowable claims 6, 8, 10, 12, 26, 28, 30 and 32 rewritten in independent form. Claim 41 has been cancelled.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$602.00 is enclosed for additional claim fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

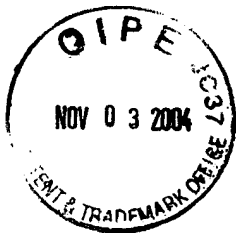
---

Henry I. Steckler  
Reg. No. 24,139

---

Date

Perman & Green, LLP  
425 Post Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
(203) 259-1800  
Customer No.: 2512



### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 11/1/04

Signature: *Doris W. Reuma*  
Person Making Deposit